

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6397

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7950

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO, PFOR

SUBJECT: CENTO COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 1974

1. CENTO COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES (COD) TOOK PLACE OCTOBER 3. AGENDA WAS AS FOLLOWS: 1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA, 2) APPROVAL OF RECORD (CD/74/R2), 3) ORAL STATEMENT BY SEC GEN ON COMPLETION OF PAPER ON POLITICAL GUIDANCE, 4) ORAL STATEMENT OF SEC GEN ON USE OF COD AS FORUM FOR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, 5) ORAL STATEMENT BY SEC GEN ON EXPANDED COOPERATION OF CENTO WITH NATO, 6) REORGANIZATION OF SECRETARIAT, AND 7) NEW BUSINESS.

2. ON AGENDA ITEM 3, DEPUTIES AGREED THAT AD HOC POLITICAL WORKING GROUP (PWG) SHOULD CONTINUE PREPARING POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPERS. UPON COMPLETION, PAPER WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMBINED MILITARY PLANNING STAFF (CMPS) AND TO THE COUNTER-SUBVERSION COMMITTEE (CSC) AND POSSIBLY TO AN AD HOC ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FOR STUDY AND RECOMMENDATIONS. THEN THE PAPER WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE PWG FOR INCORPORATION OF ANY RECOMMENDED CHANGES PRIOR TO FINAL SUBMISSION TO THE COD. THE
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PAKISTANI DEPUTY RECOMMENDED THAT THE PWG BE IN-

STRUCTURED TO PREPARE ITS FINAL REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COD WITHIN THREE MONTHS. THIS RESOLVED A PROCEDURAL PROBLEM WHICH HAS HAMPERED THE DEPUTIES FOR SOME TIME.

3. ON AGENDA ITEM 4, THE DEPUTIES AGREED TO HOLD INFORMAL MEETINGS TO DISCUSS CURRENT EVENTS AFFECTING CENTO. THE MEETINGS MAY BE CALLED AT ANY TIME BY ANY DEPUTY OR THE SEC GEN. SHOULD A DEPUTY BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, ANOTHER REPRESENTATIVE FROM HIS EMBASSY OR OFFICE WOULD ATTEND. THESE INFORMAL MEETINGS WOULD BE A SUPPLEMENT TO, NOT A REPLACEMENT FOR, THE INFORMAL LUNCHEON MEETINGS OF THE DEPUTIES WITH THE SEC GEN WHICH HAVE TRADITIONALLY PRECEDED MEETINGS OF THE COD.

4. ON AGENDA ITEM 5, IN HIS REMARKS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPENDED CONTACTS BETWEEN CENTO AND NATO, THE SEC GEN REPORTED ON PAST COOPERATION AND INVITED THE DEPUTIES TO CONSIDER FURTHER ACTION IN ADMINISTRATION, COUNTER-INSURGENCY, SECURITY, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY. ALL DEPUTIES, HOWEVER, MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD WISH TO CONSIDER ALL NEW ACTIONS OF THIS KIND WITH MUCH CARE. PAKISTANI DEPUTY WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT EXTENSION OF POLITICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN CENTO AND NATO, AND HIS VIEWS WERE ECHOED BY TURKISH DEPUTY WHO SUGGESTED EACH PROPOSAL FOR COOPERATION OR AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION SHOULD BE STUDIED AND APPROVED SEPARATELY. UK DEPUTY OBSERVED THAT AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON THE MILITARY LEVEL WAS DESIRABLE, BUT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PREVENT A CONTINUAL OVERSPILL FROM THE MILITARY TO THE POLITICAL. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER EACH COOPERATIVE PROPOSAL SEPARATELY. THE US DEPUTY UNDERSCORED THE COUNCIL'S WISH TO KNOW IN ADVANCE WHICH ACTIONS WERE CONTEMPLATED BY THE SEC GEN. THE SEC GEN THEN PROPOSED THAT AN AD HOC POLITICAL GROUP BE FORMED TO STUDY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEPUTIES' APPROVAL. UK DEPUTY DID NOT AGREE WITH IDEA BECAUSE HE

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FELT THAT SUCH A COMMITTEE TO JUSTIFY ITS EXISTENCE MIGHT CARRY MATTER FURTHER THAN IS PRESENTLY DESIRABLE. HE SUGGESTED COD ITSELF WAS BEST FORUM FOR REVIEWING AND APPROVING PROPOSALS. THE SEC GEN DEFERRED THIS ITEM PENDING ANY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS FROM THE DEPUTIES AT NEXT MEETING OF COD.

5. ON AGENDA ITEM 6, REORGANIZATION OF THE SECRETARIAT,

SECGEN RECOMMENDED THAT A COMMITTEE OF THREE EXPERTS
COMPOSED OF ONE TURK, ONE PERSON FROM IRAN/PAKISTAN
AND ONE FROM UK/US STUDY PROBLEM. THE PAKISTANI
DEPUTY REQUESTED THAT STUDY INCLUDE EXAMINATION OF
PRESENT ORGANIZATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT IS BEING FULLY
UTILIZED AND WHETHER SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL HAVE PROPER
GRADE LEVELS. THE DEPUTIES ACCEPTED PROPOSAL FOR A
REORGANIZATION STUDY, BUT SUGGESTED THAT EACH MEMBER
COUNTRY COULD, IF IT WISHED, CONTRIBUTE ONE EXPERT FOR THE
TASK. THEY FURTHER REQUESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT
PREPARE A PAPER CONTAINING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR
THE EXPERTS WHICH WOULD FIRST BE APPROVED BY THE COD.
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